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# **Vietnam Report**

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## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### FLAWS IN YEARLONG STRUGGLE AGAINST NEGATIVISM DISCUSSED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 28 Jul 81 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Efforts Against Negativism in Past Year"]

[Text] On 24 July, the Municipal 79 Guidance Committee held a meeting to assess the preliminary results of the struggle that has been underway against negativism for more than a year.

Since the beginning of 1980, the entire city has set up 306 primary organizations to carry out the struggle against negativism, in line with the spirit of directives 81 and 108 of the Party Secretariat, and of directive 31 and plan 06 of the Municipal Party Committee. Among these organizations, 106 enterprises, 43 handicraft cooperatives, 24 corporations, 51 stores, 26 wards, 4 schools, 3 hospitals, 16 villages and agricultural cooperatives, 2 stations, 2 movie houses, 1 worksite, 1 state farm, etc., 5 branches including grain, commerce, transport and communications, land, and foreign trade, and 4 city precincts, considered to be important units serving important areas, began the movement early in order to draw experiences.

Compared with goals previously set, the struggle against negativism has achieved a number of initial results. The awareness of protecting state and collective property has increased. A number of instances of embezzlement and theft involving branches of grain, commerce, communications and transport, etc., have been discovered and strictly prosecuted. A number of instances of bribery involving distribution, house repairing, military recruitment, distribution of supplies, contractual purchases, recruitment of civil servants, and treatment of disease have been discovered and addressed. However, all of this is still low when compared with requirements.

The struggle to detect instances of people being oppressed is still poor and marred with difficulties. The struggle against professional crooks and thugs has taken a turn for the better, but the situation is still complex. The struggle against speculation and smuggling has recently achieved a number of good results, generating confidence among the masses.

The struggle against negativism within organizations has achieved progress. A number of cadres and party members, including those in positions of authority, have been investigated and disciplined for embezzlement, bribery, and oppression of the people. In the first 6 months of 1981 there were 557 instances of prosecution, ranging from blame and warning to dismissal, pay cuts and forced resignation--including 29 cadres in positions of authority. Moreover, a number of party members have been disciplined by the party.

These results notwithstanding, the struggle against negativism has on the whole developed slowly and is still below requirements; the negative situation in economic and social activities has not abated; and there have been no fundamental changes in the task of blocking and rebuffing the bad practices of theft, bribery, and oppression of the masses.

Concerning ways to step up the movement in the future, the report of the committee meeting clearly states that in the last 6 months of the year, while striving to fulfill the common task, each sector as well as each echelon must make the greatest efforts to resolutely concentrate guidance on bringing about real changes in the struggle against negativism in branches, echelons, units, and localities.

The meeting also heard the vice chairman of the Municipal 79 Guidance Committee convey the meaning of directive 108 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee and of the Municipal Party Committee's circular guiding the implementation of that directive.

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## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### POLICE CHECKPOINT OFFERED NUMEROUS BRIBES

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Aug 81 p 3

/Article by Dang Minh Phuong: "Continuously Punish Bribers"/

/Text/ At midnight on 1 May 1981, truck 37A53-67 reached the Hue-Da Nang crossroads where an order to stop for inspection was given but the driver drove on. A policeman on a motorcycle pursued the truck for more than 10 kilometers before an apprehension was made. Police Third Lieutenant Ha Dinh Phi inspected the truck and found a hard object under the layers of fertilizer. He asked the driver if it was a gasoline tank.

Driver Phan Minh Quang slipped a package of money into the policeman's pocket and said, "Sir, we are going down to Ho Chi Minh City and I hope Sir you will understand and allow us to continue." Ha Dinh Phi arrested Quang, immediately took out the package of money and took Quang to the public security station to make out a report on confiscating 400 illegally transported liters of gasoline and the 500 dong bribe was turned over to the state.

A few days later, two large trucks with license numbers 52C05-14 and 52C05-92, traveling from north to south, arrived at the inspection station of Ha Dinh Phi in the middle of the day. After examining their papers, Phi asked the drivers, "Besides the 4 tons of state goods recorded in the papers, are you carrying anything else?"

"No, sir!"

The two trucks were full of large and heavy items. Phi looked under the vehicles and asked, "If you are not carrying anything else, why are springs so straight?"

Drivers Ly Van Co and Le Van Dinh became pale. The inspecting policeman discovered that each truck was carrying an additional 2 tons of tax-evasion goods. The drivers immediately changed to a ploy of familiarity, giving the policemen a package of cigarettes and 200 dong along with the blatant statement, "You work day and night and your monthly wages are low. Please take a few hundred cups of coffee and lunches."

Third Lieutenant Ha Dinh Phi resolutely refused the bribe, took the trucks to the station, forced the drivers to pay a fine of 600 dong for violating transportation regulations, confiscated the bribe for the public fund and turned over 2,000 dong in taxes on the smuggled goods to the tax agency for delivery to the state.



On the morning of the following day, Ha Dinh Phi unexpectedly received an envelope containing 1,000 dong. This money was sent by Hoang Van Bon, a partner of Ly Van Co and Le Van Dinh, in an attempt to bribe Phi to allow them to continue their activities. Ha Dinh Phi turned it all over to the state.

On 17 July, Ha Dinh Phi's unit pursued and apprehended a number of trucks from a transportation agency in Ho Chi Minh City which were illegally hauling 800 liters of gasoline. When discovered, the entire convoy of four vehicles increased speed and fled. The pursuit was difficult and dangerous. Finally, the trucks were nabbed. The drivers tried a bribe. They gave Vo Dinh Hai, from Phi's unit, 600 dong. Hai would not accept. They then gave him 800 dong and were again refused. They then used a transport bicycle operator to bring Hai 1,800 dong. None of their methods achieved results and the bribe money and all the illegally transported gasoline and oil was confiscated and turned in.

One time Ha Dinh Phi discovered two trucks, 29D09-77 and 29D09-68, transporting gasoline in excess of permissible levels by 300 liters although the individual writing the orders had intentionally written a surplus issue of gasoline in order for the drivers to escape police inspection. However, Ha Dinh Phi's unit still resolutely wrote a report. The drivers grabbed the report, pleaded and slipped money inside. When the report was opened, inside was found 400 dong. Both the bribe money and the surplus gasoline were confiscated.

On the night of 2 September 1980, Ha Dinh Phi spotted vehicle 45A52-85 transporting many illegal goods. He temporarily turned the vehicle over to the tax agency in order for the public security and tax agencies to handle the matter on the following morning. However, at 0700, the vehicle hauling illegal goods was allowed to depart by the tax team. Ha Dinh Phi saw something was wrong and had someone pursue the truck on its way toward Hue.

The vehicle was apprehended at the Hai Van Pass. The driver confessed that he had bribed taxman Ngo Van Trong with 900 dong to have the taxes reduced and allow him to leave. The police unit of Phi confronted the tax team, recovered the bribe money for the state and submitted a report to the authorities for a bribery prosecution.

Carrying out their mission in a difficult position with many vehicles passing daily, Third Lieutenant Ha Dinh Phi and the cadres and men in Da Nang Police Unit 34, consisting of Huynh Tan Hai, Pham Nhu Phong, Nguyen Dinh Long, Dang Ngoc An and Nguyen Van Ty, have night and day devoted themselves to their job, overcame many difficulties and dangers, maintained the unblemished quality of the people's police and resisted the insidious plots of dishonest individuals attempting to entice and bribe the cadres, at times ingenious, at times blatant and even many times threatening.

In only the time between the middle of 1980 and June of this year, the Hue-Da Nang crossroads police station headed by Ha Dinh Phi has 10 times discovered and punished dishonest individuals, returning to the state 12,000 liters of gasoline, 4,000 liters of oil, many other supplies and materials and more than 6,000 dong in bribes.



## MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

### COUNTERFEITERS OF HOUSEHOLD REGISTRATION PAPERS ARRESTED

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 26 Jul 81 p 4

[Article by Quoc Toan: "Gang of Counterfeiters of Hanoi Household Registration Papers Arrested"]

[Text] Recently, with the help of the people, the Public Security Service has investigated and discovered a number of instances of bad elements taking advantage of their official positions and making phony household registration papers in order to enable people from the provinces to register as permanent residents of Hanoi.

The Public Security Service has arrested a number of persons working at Building Corporation 1 (Ministry of Building), including Le Trong Luu (Labor Wages Bureau chief), Nguyen Xuan Thuong (collective household chief of Enterprise 106), Lai Quang Ha (collective household chief of Enterprise 104), Trinh Van Phuc (formerly collective household chief of Enterprise 104, now retired), and Le Xuan Tan (administrative bureau cadre of the Mechanized Repair Enterprise). The gang has supplied nearly 100 people in the provinces with phony administrative recruitment papers, first enabling them to register with the collective household of the corporation located in Ba Vi District, and then transferring these registrants to organs and enterprises located in four Hanoi precincts.

The gang has received bribes from these phony Hanoi registrants--a maximum of 9,500 dong and a minimum of 1,500 per person--in addition to gifts and invitations to dinner, etc.

The gang members will be tried by a court of law in the near future.

In the meantime, in coordination with the Capital Military Region, the Public Security Service has investigated and arrested Co, formerly a senior army sergeant, now degenerate and dehumanized, for conspiring with a number of other bad elements to make phony demobilization certificates for sale to 69 army deserters, enabling them to register with their family households in Hanoi. Co was sentenced by a military court to 12 years in prison. The Public Security Service and the Capital Military Region are taking measures to prosecute the above army deserters one by one.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

COAL STOLEN FROM INLAND WATERWAY BARGES

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 23 Aug 81 p 2

"Readers Write Letters" Column: "Illegal Buying, Selling of Coal, Gasoline and Oil Must Be Stopped"

/Text/ On the Hanoi-Viet Tri inland waterway route, we regularly see from six to seven small boats waiting at the Dong Cao ferry landing in Van Quan Village, Me Linh District, Hanoi. Each time a barge carrying coal passes, someone waves their hand and these boats immediately dash out, tie up to the barge and shovel off the coal. After filling their boats, they pay the barge operator 200 dong for each boat, each carrying from two to two and one-half tons. They then tie up to the bank and sell the coal at 330 dong per ton. Thus, each boat obtains a profit of from 450 to 600 dong.

With this method of collusive trade, state property is seriously undermined by those engaged in illegal activities.

We suggest that the responsible agencies of Me Linh District in Hanoi have methods of promptly halting this illegal activity in order to protect socialist property.

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

REAGAN REPRESENTED AS DESTRUCTIVE FORCE

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAU DAN in Vietnamese 31 Aug 81 p 4

[Text]



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## PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

### PHAM BAN DONG ADDRESSES CONFERENCE ON PRODUCTION CONTRACTING

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 17 Aug 81 pp 1,4

[VNA News Release: "At Conference to Recapitulate Agricultural Production Contracting, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong Affirms That Production Contracting Is a New Development of Our Country's Agriculture, a Broad Socialist Revolutionary Movement, a Festival of the Masses"]

[Excerpts] Recently, in Ha Nam Ninh Province the Ministry of Agriculture organized a preliminary recapitulation of production contracting in agricultural cooperatives, in accordance with Directive No 100 of the Secretariat of the Party Central Committee, in order to discuss the perfection and expansion of the form of contracting out production to workers on a national scale.

Participating in the conference were a number of provincial party committee secretaries; chairmen or vice chairmen of People's Committees of provinces and municipalities in the north, along the central coast, and in the Central Highlands, Ho Chi Minh City, and the provinces of Hau Giang and Dong Nai; leadership cadres of 82 districts; representatives of 53 agricultural production cooperatives; and more than 200 cadres of mass organizations and propaganda, press, news agency, and broadcasting organs.

Comrade Vo Chi Cong, a member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, and comrade Nguyen Ngoc Triu, a member of the Party Central Committee and Minister of Agriculture, presided over the conference.

Comrade Pham Van Dong, member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, visited and spoke to the conference.

Expressing his opinions at the conference, Vo Chi Cong, Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers, praised the localities and the Ministry of Agriculture for having positively carried out the policy of contracting out production, and lauded the propaganda, press, and theoretical research organs for having effectively dealt with the new factors, contributed to furthering the rapid development of the contracting out of production into a seething revolutionary movement among the masses in all types of cooperatives in all areas -- the lowlands, the piedmont region, and the mountain region -- and brought about very important initial results and creating many good prospects.



The Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers evaluated the initial results of the contracting out of production as having furthered the development of production, the consolidation of cooperatives, the effective use of the latent capabilities of labor, land, and material-technical bases, the rapid assimilation and application of technical advances, and the improvement of cooperative management, enabled the masses to truly exercise their collective mastership right, and created a basis on which the three benefits can be resolved well, united with one another, and become greater.

At present, the agricultural cooperatives are undergoing a transformation, and there are capabilities of, within a short period of time, advancing the weak and deficient cooperatives to an "average" or "good" status, while also rapidly multiplying the advanced models on a broad scale and creating a new, higher uniformity.

Vice Chairman Vo Chi Cong provided the following analysis: the reason why the broad masses welcome and strongly support the policy of contracting out production, why it has rapidly developed into a mass revolutionary movement and has brought about real results, is that the production contracting-out mechanism has made a real contribution to resolving the problems of organizing and managing production, and organizing and distributing labor in a manner appropriate to the present level of our material-technical bases and labor implements, which are still weak and incomplete, with most of the work still being done manually. The contracting out of production has created conditions for carrying out a division of labor, combining the three benefits, and causing the workers to produce enthusiastically, be concerned with the process of production and the results of production, and tie themselves in with the cooperative. Furthermore, the contracting-out of production has combined the implementation of the three revolutions in rural areas.

Vice Chairman Vo Chi Cong pointed out that in some places, due to a lack of close leadership and guidance, in the implementation process there have been such deficiencies as distributing land in a fragmented manner, using water buffaloes and oxen beyond their capacities, assigning inappropriate contracted-out quotas, and poor management of the production phases. In some places, especially during the initial period, there was also the situation of "blank check" contracting out to cooperative members.

However, in a strongly developing mass movement it is difficult to avoid deficiencies, and those are not deficiencies of the production contracting-out mechanism. In fact, many places have overcome and are overcoming those deficiencies.

Finally, Vice Chairman Vo Chi Cong once again confirmed that the policy of contracting out production has a completely scientific basis, and must continue to be perfected and implemented. During the coming period it is necessary to implement the contracting-out of production in all cooperatives and production collectives, even in the Mekong Delta and the northern mountain region.

The party committee echelons and governmental administrations, especially at the district level, must closely monitor each developmental step of the contracting-out movement, tie in contracting-out with the improvement of cooperative management in general and the development of the district echelon, and promptly correct the deficiencies, in order to attain even greater results.

The conference very enthusiastically greeted comrade Pham Van Dong, a member of the Political Bureau of the Party Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers, who arrived to visit and deliver a speech.

After listening to a report on the results of the conference's discussions and to the opinions of a number of delegates, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong, on behalf of the Party Central Committee and the Council of Ministers enthusiastically praised the great victories of the peasants and the cadres and party members of the sectors and echelons, especially, at the base level, on the agricultural production front in general and in contracting-out of production in the cooperatives during the recent 1980-1981 fifth month-spring production season. The Chairmen of the Council of Ministers affirmed that that was a new developmental step of our country's agriculture, a broad socialist revolutionary movement, a festival day of the masses. That movement has an important significance with regard to both theory and practice, has a long-range strategic significance, and is tied in with the whole process of advance of agricultural production the developmental process of the revolution in production relations, and the creation of a new countryside. The Chairman of the Council of Ministers analyzed the organic relationship and reciprocal effect between the contracting out of production and the three revolutions, and stated that the conference had illuminated the profound significance of the combining of the three revolutions, with regard to theory and practice, and that it is necessary to combine the three revolutionary movements with the movement to contract out production and promote the rapid, correct development of the movement. We must do a better job of combining the contracting-out of production with the development of the socialist collective mastership right of the workers, and enable the masses to truly become liberated and advance to becoming the masters of themselves and the nation. By doing so we will be able to accomplish extraordinary things and bring about incalculably great results.

Analyzing the relationship between the collective and the individual in the process of organizing production and the developmental process, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers stated that in the developmental process of socialism, the development of each person will create the common development of everyone, of the collective and of society. The individual and the collective will develop and grow together. The laboring peasants of our country have been bound together with the collective whole for decades, and because of the movement to contract-out production there are certain to be many additional fresh, pretty flowers, and new socialist people will be created by respects for, and the development of, the collective mastership right.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers emphasized the important long-range role of the district echelon, the mission of the sectors and localities in developing the district, and the mission of guiding the cooperatives in planning, in organization and management, in building material-technical bases, and in production, distribution, and circulation in the sphere of the district. He also emphasized that the contracting out of production in the agricultural cooperatives requires that the sectors and echelons, especially the district echelon (including the sectors in the district), which directly guides the bases, must improve their management structure, improve their leadership, do a better job of building the districts' material-technical bases, enable the district to become technical equipment centers for the rural areas; pay attention to, and do a good job of, developing agriculture and industry; and create for the districts a rational agricultural-industrial structure.

In the immediate future, we must concentrate all efforts of the district echelon on developing agriculture, and resolve the problem of producing food and a number of other goods that can be produced, in order to stabilize and improve the living conditions of the people in the districts. At the same time, we must fulfill our obligations to the state and contribute to building and defending the nation.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers analyzed the important significance of building a new socialist countryside in the districts, in combination with the movement to contract out production in agriculture, and stated that "We must, by all means -- in this case implementing the contracting out of production, building up the cooperatives, and developing agricultural production, and doing a good job of building up the district echelon -- create a new countryside with regard to the material and cultural lives of the people." If that is accomplished, the rural areas will be a source of support for building socialism and defending the socialist homeland, and we will create an agricultural-industrial structure in the sphere of the district and an industrial-agricultural structure nationally.

After discussing the deficiencies of the echelons and sectors and sectors, from the central level to the base level, with regard to the redistribution of labor forces during the recent period, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers spoke of the strategic importance of the redistribution of labor forces on a national scale, combined with the carrying out of the planned parenthood campaign, during the coming period, and emphasized that that is a revolution and that it is possible to make the district the unit for organizing and guiding its implementation and the unit for labor exchanges between places which send laborers and those who receive them.

The Chairman of the Council of Ministers admonished the sectors, echelons, and cooperatives to realize more clearly the great significance of the movement to contract out production and develop the positive aspects of the movement, while also paying much attention to and promptly correcting the deficiencies and weaknesses, in order to perfect the contracting out of production in agricultural cooperatives.

Sharing the happiness over the victorious first season of carrying out the contracting out of production, Council of Ministers Chairman Pham Van Dong greatly inspired the conference. The conference warmly applauded and welcomed his opinions, expressed its confidence in the party's economic development line, and expressed determination to win an even greater all-round victory in contracting out production during the tenth-month season.

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FIRSTHAND REPORT ON CURRENT CONDITIONS IN VIETNAM

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 24, 31 Aug 81

[24 Aug 81, pp 110-118]

[Text] We Die but Have No Coffins.

The day no longer begins with revolutionary music from public loudspeakers; Hanoi now is awakened by the crow of the cock.

That privately owned fowl is in evidence everywhere--tied to trees or in cages, in the street, in yards and on boulevards of this once elegant, now rundown and evil-smelling city. By keeping a chicken, families assure themselves of at least one good meal one fine day--but in what period of time?

In the past, when the U.S. B-52's were still bombing the country and morale was still high, the people did gymnastics in the streets to the sound of military march music.

Now, from the window of the Hoa Binh Hotel, which has neither running water nor electricity, one only sees groups of Vietnamese gathering withered leaves for making a fire, while others are squatting around small tables cooking some thin soup or nibbling at a small piece of bread.

In the center of Hanoi, at the famous "Lake of the Magic Sword" surrounded by legends and memories of a glorious past, children and grownup men are trying to assemble a meal by dipping small plastic bags into the dirty water in the hope of catching some fish.

In the neighboring park--as in all parks in the cities of Hue, Da Nang, Nha Trang and Saigon--the beggars rise from the benches by the scores in the early morning and start delousing one another.

At sunrise small boys and old men station themselves at crossroads in every village and every town of the country behind their sole means of making a living--a bicycle pump. Like millions of other emaciated and pale Vietnamese, they start the day exhausted only to resume the struggle for a little food.

Six years after the great victory, the great hopes for peace, the great speeches about the reconstruction and prosperity of a reunified country, Vietnam is the country of a people bereft of hope and marked by hunger, war and oppression.



Hanoi has made the century-old nationalist dream of the Vietnamese a reality: it rules over the whole of former French Indochina, including Laos and Cambodia, and has become the strongest military power in the Far East next to China.

But the grandiose unfolding of external power is in oppressive contrast with the misery of the country. "We eat but our stomachs are not full, we dress but are not covered, we die but have no coffins," a current saying goes.

From the misty mountains along the northern border, where Hanoi's soldiers in their trenches await the next attack of the Chinese, to the swamps and ricefields of the Mekong Delta in the south, where rebellious farmers await the next attack of the communists who want to collectivize their land, Vietnam presents an oppressive panorama of defeats.

The economy is finished, or, as an expert puts it, "there is no economy." Agriculture produces far less than suffices for feeding the people. Industrial plants, if they operate at all, operate at half capacity. The conquered south has not been integrated, and in the north the leadership has lost all respect and credibility.

Society is being shaken by old but also by new evils--unemployment, crime, prostitution, corruption. Normally the best trained citizens, tens of thousands of former political prisoners and a substantial proportion of the urban population only think of ways and means of escaping from the country.

Relations between people and government are governed by fear and distrust. The country is ruled by a military and police apparatus which consumes two-thirds of the meager government budget--communism reduced ad absurdum.

The ambitious five-year plan drafted after the victory of 1975 provided for an annual growth of 14 percent. This has turned out to be but 2 percent, while the population has shown a steady increase of 3 percent. The production of grain was to have amounted to 21 million tons a year starting in 1980, but even the most optimistic estimates for this year do not exceed 13 million tons.

"We are dealing with a country of 58 million inhabitants which is in a state of bankruptcy," says the official representative of an international organization.

While there are no reports that people have actually starved to death, malnutrition has become a visible phenomenon in communist Vietnam--visible owing to the skin diseases of children and the patent exhaustion of grownups.

"They think of nothing but food, only food," says a foreign engineer about the workers in a textile plant in whose construction he is assisting. "They do not have enough calories and therefore do not work properly."

This January, because of inadequate supply of food, amoebic dysentery broke out near the city of Vinh, and in March dockworkers in the port of Haiphong refused to load a Soviet ship with cans of food meant as payment for imported goods.

"First we have to supply the workers with food, and only then can we build up industry," says Huan Tung, editor of the party paper NHAN DAN. "Our main concern now is for people's stomachs."

The average wage is 60 to 80 dong, 1 U.S. dollar being worth 3 dong--officially, but 10 times as much on the black market. A bowl of soup costs 7 dong.

Anyone working for the government is entitled to from 13 to 18 kilograms of rice a month, at the official price of 0.38 dong a kilogram. The state-owned stores do not have enough rice in stock, however, and on the free market 1 kilogram cost 18 dong.

Every Vietnamese is entitled to a monthly meat ration of 1 pound, at a price of 3.8 dong a kilogram. If he wants to buy a kilogram of beef in addition, he has to sacrifice half his monthly wages (40 dong), and a kilogram of fish will cost him 25 dong.

The meals of most Vietnamese therefore consist only of a bit of rice, cassava, maize and a small amount of vegetables. Only on very special occasions do they get to eat the chicken lovingly raised by their families.

In Hanoi recently, a man came into a canteen, ordered some rice and salt, put a painted wooden fish on the steaming plate, ate, put the fish in his pocket again and left. The next day he returned and did the same thing. His protest being unmistakable, the police finally arrested him. His fellow citizens said jokingly that he had been awarded the title of "socialist hero" because he had invented "reusable food."

Vietnam has long since ceased to be in a position to feed itself from its own production, but as miserably as now, when the country appears to have got all it wanted politically, the Vietnamese have not lived for a long time.

During the war the country lived in part off foreign aid, the north receiving supplies from China, and the south from the United States. After the forcible reunification, those two sources dried up, and the new benefactors, the Soviets, cannot come up with everything.

"Since 1975 we have had 6 million more people and 10 million fewer dollars," says the prominent historian Nguyen Khac Vien from Hanoi; "the mere fact that we have survived is a miracle."

Yet the opportunities for the communists when they took over the south as liberators 6 years ago did not appear to be too bad. Their victory against the powerful United States had increased their prestige, they were able to lean on their hard ideology, and they had a plan providing for a solution of any situation in life.

Their greatest challenge was that the towns were overcrowded and lacked food. Their solution: Resettlement into "new economic areas" to unburden the towns. The people who had no work after the departure of the Americans were to gain new land, turning the jungle into cultivated land.

Through persuasion or force, thousands of families, particularly the relatives of former soldiers of the Thieu army, were removed from Saigon and other cities and resettled in uninhabited areas.

There they lived in pitiful conditions, with not enough water and without medical care. Many of those resettled perished, and the action was also an economic failure.

Six years later only half a million hectares of land have been made cultivable, and a large part still does not operate productively.

Le Minh Xuan, for instance, was a famous new economic area located about 30 kilometers northwest of Saigon. It was one of the first. Visitors were taken there regularly to view the model of the "future of Vietnam."

Today no visitors are admitted any longer, because Le Minh Xuan has become a desert again. The huts have been abandoned, the fields are exposed to the scorching sun, and the unpaved road leading through the place is empty.

The 4,000 hectares of land which had been made cultivable and tilled are lying fallow. No one had taken into consideration the fact that in this area, 30 centimeters below the surface, there is a layer of particularly acid soil which, when mixed with water, poisons the entire ground.

Since the plowing went to exactly 30 centimeters below the surface, and the soil below that was then used for building small ponds along the ricefields, the entire soil is now infertile.

"It would have sufficed to examine the area beforehand, to conduct a few tests and dig elsewhere," says a foreign expert who came to investigate. Now it is too late.

Those thousands of people who, family after family, sleep on plastic sheets in the streets of Saigon, on the pavement around the central market and in the railroad stations are returnees who have abandoned Le Minh Xuan and other new economic areas.

They have returned to their towns in despair and cannot now find either work or accommodations. The places where they used to live have meanwhile been assigned to others, mostly people from the north.

There is a similar fiasco in the west of the country, in the "Plain of the Reed" on the Cambodian border. "Against the warnings of the farmers, the cadres in Hanoi ordered the cultivation of rice in that area of 10,000 hectares. Not a single kilogram has been harvested so far.

Jute was supposed to be planted in the new economic area of Kieng Giang, but the seed from the north was not suited to the climate in the south.

The consequences in Saigon were devastating. Textile Plant 13 in the Fourth District--with old British machines from the forties and more than 1,000 workers--which had been reopened specially for producing 150,000 bales of jute a month now must procure its raw material from Hanoi 1,500 kilometers away.

Ignorance and stubbornness have turned the experiment with the new economic areas into a catastrophe. The towns continue to be overcrowded, there is the same unemployment as before, but the South Vietnamese have lost their faith in the ability of the communists to solve the country's problems.

At the end of the war the new rulers inherited a viable modern infrastructure in the south. For lack of funds or owing to sheer inability, they were not in a position to utilize it and at least maintain it in its existing state.



The textile plants in Bien Hoa, north of Saigon, used to have an annual production of 300 million meters of fabrics, with cotton being imported from Japan and Taiwan. Owing to the lack of raw materials, production has now dropped below one-third of what it used to be.

The cadres from Hanoi ordered the cultivation of cotton on large areas all around Saigon, but since they did not also supply pesticides, the first harvest fell victim to swarms of insects last year. In Na Dang the Knights of Malta, with German funds, erected one of the most modern surgical clinics in the country. Today the "C" Hospital is no more than a heap of junk inside--microscopes without lighting, refrigerators without compressors, an operating room without airconditioning.

The greatest waste by the new Vietnam, however, has been the use of its manpower. In the south the conquerors found many engineers and technicians trained abroad who had not managed to escape when the war ended or had decided to stay and work under the new government.

This qualified personnel almost universally lost their jobs to people who had come in from the north. The former chief engineer of the Saigon Post Office, for instance, now sits behind a typewriter, the director of the Saigon Waterworks was dispatched to become a worker in an agricultural plant, and the director of the biggest rubber plantation in the south was made a bookkeeper.

Mme Dai, a former lawyer, operates a restaurant at her residence, with people eating amid legal textbooks and a collection of ceramics.

A former high school teacher has a store on Dong Khoi Boulevard, the former Tu-Do Street, with a book by Lenin placed invitingly in the window. Actually couples can borrow there anything they may need for their wedding, from clothing to wrist watches. A huge capital of know-how needed urgently by the country is thus being squandered.

When the communists took over the south, many intellectuals offered to work for the new rulers and the country's reconstruction. This good will was gambled away, cooperation with noncommunists was rejected, and many of them found themselves imprisoned for months or years in the same prisons in which Thieu used to detain his opponents.

Cao Giao, for example, a Vietnamese journalist who among other things had worked for DER SPIEGEL, was among those who had decided to stay, for he used to say. "The revolution sets me dreaming." In 1978 he was arrested and put in the Chi-Hao Prison, spending most of the time in solitary confinement. He was never indicated and recently was released.

In the streets of Saigon, Da Nang, Hue or any other city of the south, one meets thousands of qualified persons who were deprived of their source of livelihood--high school teachers, pharmacy students, interpreters, technicians.

On the new book market in Saigon, intellectuals are selling their collections to finance their escape, or they are looking for odd jobs to earn a bowl of soup--for instance, a former parachutist who speaks English and French perfectly.



He says: "I spent 3 years in a reeducation camp. Then one day I was given a document certifying that I was qualified. Qualified for what?" Pale, long haired and toothless, he is unemployed at the age of 26 without any hope of finding a job.

Long moustaches and hair down to the neck generally identify the people who have returned from the camps. At night groups of such desperadoes gather in the somber cafes of Saigon to slowly slurp cheap lemonade and to be dazed by stereo music of days past. Nobody talks (because one's neighbor might be a spy, after all) as the lyrics of the currently most popular song pound between the walls:

"...a vacation in the tropics may be a solution this year; this is the American dream--that we now can travel without funds..."

When the communists marched into Saigon, they called everyone "brother" and promised a policy of reconciliation and concord in order that the wounds of the long civil war might heal. They have not kept their promise.

Everyone who in any way or at any time used to work for one of the former regimes of South Vietnam is stigmatized and discriminated against--as is his family.

And if someone, for example, used to occupy an important position in the south, he is not allowed to send his children to college. His life is burdened by a sin from which no confession can absolve him.

By now all directors of state-owned factories and enterprises in the south are North Vietnamese or natives who had already joined the communists in the fifties. The official justification: "They are familiar with the socialist leadership system."

The truth is that at the end of the war a completely new social stratum emerged from the jungle to demand its share in the spoils of victory. Relentlessly they took over the housing, roles and privileges of the former ruling class.

The traffic policeman in the streets of Saigon comes from Hanoi. The driver of a taxi company in Nha Trang is North Vietnamese, as is the bookkeeper of an agricultural enterprise in Beng Song, the director of museums in Hue, and the director of the Oriental Hotel in Da Nang, whose personnel was replaced entirely by children of revolutionary cadres.

The communists had even planned to remove the many thousands of graves of Thieu soldiers at the cemetery in Cong Hoa north of Saigon in order to bury their own dead there. At the last moment someone objected that this was going too far, and so it was decided to let the cemetery of those who had "died for liberty" (as they used to say then) go to seed and to build on the opposite side of the street a new cemetery for those "who died for the revolution" (as they say today).

Soldiers discharged from the North Vietnamese Army get jobs anywhere in the south. Ngo Cung Vien and Nguyen Tien Binh, for instance, both took part in the long battle for Quang Tri in 1972. One fought in the army of Hanoi, the other in that of Saigon. I met both in the search for a bunker in which I had taken cover during the battle of Quang Tri.

Now, the man from the north has moved here with his family and has obtained a job, being responsible for the loudspeaker system of the area, while the man from the south, discharged after reeducation, is scraping among the wreckage and the burned-out chassis of trucks, tanks and unexploded grenades for salable scrap iron.

This is a dangerous kind of work. This year five persons have died in explosions of ammunition in the plain in which the town of Quang Tri was located at one time.

"Aren't you afraid?" I ask Ngo Cung Vien. He shrugs his shoulders and says with a smile, "It is the only thing I can do." And shuffles along on his way with a stock of iron on his shoulder.

"We were right to fight together with them, for we could not side with Thieu and the Americans," says a 36-year-old Catholic who in the early seventies went underground and joined the revolution.

But he continues: "Only we made the mistake of forgetting that they were communists and would claim everything for themselves as soon as they got to power."

Even those South Vietnamese who spend many years in the jungle on the side of the communists as soldiers and representatives of the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) are now being discriminated against and have been stripped of any influence.

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, for example, former foreign minister of the PRG, now has an inferior job in a ministry in Hanoi. Nguyen Huu Tho, the first president of the conquered south, was fobbed off with an honorable but powerless post in the government, as was Huynh Tan Phat, former prime minister.

Those South Vietnamese intellectuals who did not join the revolution until after the Tet offensive in 1968 are regarded as not quite reliable "taillights."

"They don't trust us," says Le Van Hao in Hue. In 1972 the teacher at the renowned high school in the former emperor's city was a cause celebre. At that time he disappeared from Hue and soon thereafter on the radio, in the name of the PRG, called for a general revolt against the Thieu regime.

When I requested in Hue that a meeting be arranged with him, the answer was: "With whom? We have never heard of him."

The day after, while I was taking a walk along the "Perfumed River," a middle-aged lean man approached me saying: "I am Le Van Hao; I was sitting behind you yesterday when you mentioned my name." He would like to visit his daughter in France but cannot get an exist visa.

Among the South Vietnamese revolutionaries deeply disturbed by the rigidity and dogmatism of the new regime is Mme Duong Quynh Hoa, former minister of health of the PRG, who says, "This is my country, and I will work for it--but not within the government."

A short time ago she resigned all her offices and now works as a physician in the children's department of the old Grall Hospital in Saigon. "I cannot work together with people who think they have a monopoly on truth and virtue," she says.

When the communists took over the south, they made the well-deserved claim of being morally superior. They were heroes who had lived in the jungle, where there was no corruption. They had come to put order in the rotten society of the south.

Years of sacrifice and privation had given them a kind of natural right to rule the country they had freed from colonialism and foreign intervention and reunified. This innocence they have lost.

The evil of corruption is now as widespread in communist Vietnam as it used to be under Thieu. One has to hand over money under the table to get a permit to stay in the country, to be allowed to travel around the country, to see a doctor, to escape abroad.

Nor can it be otherwise, for only few people can live off their wages. "The state pretends it is paying us, and so we pretend we are working," say the workers, and keep their heads above water by doing business on the side and smuggling. The same goes for the policeman, the party official, the village administrator, none of whom is in a position to live off his salary.

In Saigon recently, a high communist official was summoned to appear before the party disciplinary committee because it had become known that he was operating a small street cafe. His defense was simple: "Either the cafe or corruption; 80 dong is not enough for me to live on."

The policeman in the town district asks for two packs of foreign cigarettes, now worth 100 dong, to cover the visit of a relative at the place of some Vietnamese or other. The party official in charge of the distribution of meat in the district releases a few kilograms for sale at the official price but sells the rest on the free market, dividing the profit with the people who are in on it. Today corruption is a monster dominating the entire government apparatus.

The latest joke is that Prime Minister Pham Van Dong decided for a change to see for himself how the common man was living. So he wanders incognito through Saigon. At the cathedral square he sees a man praying before the statue of the Virgin Mary, saying "Holy Mother, please give me 100 dong." Pham Van Dong looks in his pocket, finds 70 dong and gives them to the man. An hour later he returns and see the same man praying before the statue, saying : "Hold Mother, next time you send me money, please don't do so via the party; it always keeps 30 percent."

The party has long since lost the aura and prestige it enjoyed during the war even among the South Vietnamese when it was operating and fighting underground.

Party cadres now have the best housing, have access to special hospitals and live far away from the daily straits of the people. Deja-vu communism in name only. "The fish have left the waters of the people and now live in an aquarium," a popular saying goes.

A short time ago, one could read the following on walls in Saigon: "Nice house, five rooms, two baths, airconditioning and swimming pool, for rent at 32 Ngo Quyn." That is the address of Le Duan, first secretary of the communist party.

The graffiti on the walls of Vietnamese houses pronounce a truth that is not to be found in the strictly censored press. "There is nothing more precious than freedom and independence" was the motto of Ho Chi Minh which was quoted orally and in writing with particular frequency. Now the last words have often been deleted, and so the motto reads, "There is nothing."

Thieu used to warn his supporters against communism, saying, "Pay no attention to what they say but look at what they do." Without mentioning the person who said so (everyone knows who it was), this sentence can be found scratched on walls here and there.

"Their politics consist in traps," says a Catholic priest; "they promise one thing and do another." The example of "communist deceit" cited most frequently is the so-called reeducation.

Immediately after Saigon had been taken, the new communist authorities asked anyone who had worked for the military or civilian apparatus of the old regime to report for reeducation equipped with a mosquito net and a month's ration of rice.

Hundreds of thousands reported. Most of them were released after a few days or weeks. About 250,000 people vanished in remote jungle camps distributed all over the country.

In 1976 the government announced officially that the reeducation would last 3 years at most and that after that the inmates of the camps would either be released or put on trial.

Now 5 years have passed and many inmates have not returned. How many? No one is prepared to give the answer. Estimates range from 20,000 to 200,000.

"We are keeping them because they have not changed their views. We are patient and can wait until they acknowledge their crimes." So says 1st Lt Ngyuen Can Mo, commandant of the Hay Tay Reeducation Camp, 25 kilometers south of Hanoi, about his 462 inmates.

The cells are clean, there are flowers blooming in the garden, the food is excellent, the guards are smiling. Everything looks as it would in a model prison got ready for visitors from abroad. Occasionally it is too much of a good thing, with perfection becoming perversion and the smile turning into a grimace.

In a class room a prisoners orchestra plays a waltz. Twenty-four former generals, colonels and supreme court justices under the Thieu regime get up and applaud. The camp commandant checks one after another, remarking of one man that he has made great progress and that unfortunately not everyone has as yet written an entirely frank report about his misdeeds.

Materials for instruction can be seen lying on the tables--"Marx and Engles: a Stimulating Friendship," the journal LIEN XO (the Soviet Union), pictorial volumes about the war.

There is Gen Nguyen Vinh Nghi, former commander of the III Army Corps, who was taken prisoner in the battle near Nha Trang. There is Gen Phan Duy Tat, supreme commander of the forces which surrendered in Can Tho.



For 6 years they have been asked every day to write down their history, to admit their errors, to repent. Only a few have softened or broken down.

Col Loi Du Chan, a former member of the general staff, stands erect in a black uniform, with a white scarf, a black cap and dark glasses. "One of my sons is in Germany," he says; "the rest of the family is in Saigon--no, not Saigon but Ho Chi Minh City." Correcting himself, he looks embarrassed at the camp commandant, afraid that he has committed yet another crime.

Five people have died here, including the famous lawyer Senator Tran Van Tuyen. "Cerebral hemorrhage," says the commandant. "He cut open his arteries," says one of his friends in Saigon: "he couldn't stand it any longer."

Col Tran Van Tuoi got back his old uniform to welcome his wife. She came from Can Tho in the Mekong Delta, the trip costing her more than 1,000 dong.

"This camp clearly is proof of humanity," a French journalist wrote into the guest book. The authorities, however, know themselves that these camps constitute a great liability for the regime in the eyes of the population of South Vietnam. The inmates include not only generals and colonels but sergeants, judges, lawyers and political opponents arrested only recently.

"We must choose the lesser of evils, though," admits a high official in Hanoi; "if we release these people today, they will work against us tomorrow, trying to overthrow the revolutionary power."

[31 Aug 81, pp 126-140]

[Text] We Are Strong in Wartime but Split by Peace

There are quite frequent acts of sabotage against the regime in the sixth year of reunified communist Vietnam, when all of Hanoi's hopes seem to have been fulfilled. Within a single month two fires broke out in the harbor of Haiphong destroying whole stocks of Soviet goods. A train has been raided in the south. From time to time a communist official is killed.

The telephone lines in the area of Saigon inhabited by the new red bourgeoisie are cut frequently. It happens that civilian buses on the way from Dalat are stopped by armed men claiming to belong to a group called Phuc Quoc (Save the Country).

The government itself tends to exaggerate such acts of resistance by former Thieu soldiers and bandits to justify the rigid controls to which it is subjecting the people. An organized nationwide resistance movement against the regime does not exist.

"The only opposition party is the 'boat people,'" says a former lawyer from Saigon. Together with one of his sons, he has already tried to escape once. "We didn't even see the sea," he says. "It was night. We were still in the woods when someone shouted, 'Police, police!' Everyone fled, and those who were aiding in the escape vanished with the money we had already paid."

To escape from Vietnam has long since ceased to be easy. You have to find a boat, tip the right policeman and sacrifice a relative to stay behind and guard the house in case the escape fails. And you have to be lucky to find the right kind of boat (above all, a seaworthy one), which then has to be picked up by the right kind of ship.

"We had been at sea as long as 15 hours when we saw a big ship. Our people began to cry with joy. We thought we were safe. Then we saw a red flag with hammer and sickle, and the ship began gathering us up." This is the story told by a writer who had spent 3 years in Thieu's prisons and 1 year in those of the new regime.

The Russian freighter detained the refugees in the bay until a Vietnamese patrol boat the Russians had called by radio showed up and took them back ashore.

South Vietnamese caught trying to escape end up in prison but are not kept there longer than 2 or 3 months, the prisons on the coast being full of people who have tried unsuccessfully to escape.

Nevertheless, thousands try their luck at sea every month. On the average about 10,000 people a month manage to escape somewhere. Many others continue to hatch bold plans of escape—particularly relatives of the former South Vietnamese bourgeoisie, Vietnamese of Chinese origin, intellectuals, soldiers and officers who have returned from the reeducation camps, but also party cadres and former revolutionaries who have lost their faith.

When they took over the south in 1975, before attacking Laos and Cambodia, the communists did not face an easy task. Huge devastation had been caused by 30 years of war. The Americans' use of chemical weapons alone had consequences that it probably will take generations to overcome.

Parents exposed to the poison with the codename of Orange (2.4.5-T) to this day produce children with a far greater rate of deformations than is normal. Farmers from the Pleiku area tell about monstrous plants in the jungle area sprayed by the U.S. Air Force with defoliants. On the other hand, one certainly was entitled to expect the communists to solve the social problems of the south, which they had blamed on the corrupt Saigon regime. It happened the other way round: many an untoward state of affairs from the pleasure-loving, corrupt south has sneaked into the hard north by now.

"Do you like Vietnamese girls?" the driver of a government limousine recently asked a foreigner in Hanoi. During the war there had been no prostitution in the north.

Now competent middlemen occasionally offer a choice between a girl for 20 dollars in Hanoi and a special deal for 100 dollars which includes a trip by car to Haiphong and dinner in a special private residence.

In the south the business continues to flourish in the streets and in the cadres, apart from a few old prostitutes who weave baskets in a special camp while singing revolutionary songs for the entertainment of visiting journalists.

During the war there were no beggars in the north; now they camp in parks and pagodas.

On the river banks in Saigon at night, old and new beggars often argue over who gets to use the cement benches (donated to the city by the Lions Club).

As in former days, there are many children among the beggars. A number of them specialize in getting money from the Soviets. Approaching them, they imitate an astronaut flying around the earth, while pointing to their empty bellies.

During the war I had got to know a begging youth who asked me shortly before the withdrawal of the Americans, "Give me some money, I am going to America."

I have seen him again now. This time we had to meet in secret for me to give him some money without the policeman at the corner demanding his share. "VC no good," says the boy--still using the old GI expression for the Vietcong.

As soon as a Vietnamese sees a foreigner who is no Lien Xo (Russian), he indulges in nostalgic reminiscences of the past. "In the past Vietnam was No 1, today Vietnam is No 10," says a woman selling cigarettes in Hue.

Six years have been enough to make this tortured people forget the U.S. bombers, the hits of Russian missiles and the raids of the Thieu police. The war seems to be far in the past. One recalls less the suffering than the modern convenience, the prosperity and the accompanying pleasures.

"Even my mother says she lived better during the time of the Americans," admits a high official in Hanoi whose family used to live in the south.

The past is a heavy burden for the regime because in addition to the misery the Vietnamese suffered as a result of the presence of foreigners, this presence brought with it at the same time a special life style which many found attractive.

Hanoi continues to create the impression of a French colonial city, Saigon continues to be a chaotic modern U.S. product, and the Vietnamese of today still live in those shells of the past. The new rulers are doing their best to relegate them to oblivion.

Thus any books printed before 1975 are under lock and key in special sections in the libraries, and the biggest bookstore in Saigon carries only Vietnamese books, specialized Russian literature, and in French only a biography of Brezhnev.

Old leading revolutionaries, however, still speak French, and the young generation speaks English with an American accent. These people, resembling remnant ruins, cannot forget the past.

"Sir, I am French," says an old hobo in Hanoi. In the hot tropical sun he wears a black jacket that looks as if it was 50 years old, black pants full of spots and a shirt that was white at one time. "The Vietnamese are barbarians," he says, showing a picture of his French father who was a legionnaire, and talks about his dream of emigrating to France.

In front of the Cham Museum in Da Nang, a group of boys shove a goodlooking blond boy with freckles under his green eyes toward me. "My name is Hoang, and I am 11," he says after some embarrassment in halting English. There are thousands of children like him left behind by U.S. soldiers.

A gang of such children hangs around the harbor of Da Nang, where a Russian ship from Vladivostok is unloading cement. They gather small amounts of cement from burst bags in small plastic bags and then sell them in the market.

In comparison with the standard of living of the past, the 6 years under the new regime are a step backward for the South Vietnamese. And the North Vietnamese have not made any progress in these past 6 years.

The people in the north had thought that the end of the war would also mean an end to the big sacrifices and give them a better life. They were disappointed.

"We will satisfy the people's need for fans, wristwatches, radios, television sets and sewing machines," party head Le Duan promised 5 years ago. Today Hanoi's central department store is as empty as ever, the shelves are covered with dust, the saleswomen tired, and there is almost nothing for sale.

The main park of the city, called the Park of Reunification, now bears the name of Lenin--"because the country has already been reunified and because we must rebuild socialism," a travel guide explains.

The socialist society is primarily a society of people standing in line. There are queues for buying matches, cigarettes, bread, queues for crossing on foot or by bicycle the 1.5-kilometer-long bridge built by the French in 1898 which is still the only crossing over the Red River.

The new bridge the Chinese had started building upstream remained incomplete, and the pillars of another bridge being built by the Soviets do not even protrude from the muddy water as yet.

During the war and thereafter North Vietnam received huge amounts of aid in the form of goods, primarily from the socialist countries, but not everything was used. Examples of mismanagement and waste are legion. The case of the paper mill in Bai Bang, a gift of the Swedish Government, is said to be typical.

After years of construction and endless delays, the plant finally started production this year. But the raw material has to be imported from Sweden since the wood which was supposed to supply the lumber for the mill is 100 kilometers away and no road leads there as yet.

When the first paper had been produced, half of it was immediately stolen, and there were no trucks to haul the rest away. In Hanoi it is still not possible to buy a note pad, telegrams are still delivered on primitive brown paper in envelopes made of old newspapers.

Because innumerable Vietnamese schools have no books, UNICEF has made available a plant for the printing of schoolbooks, but the Vietnamese have been unable to set it up as yet for lack of cement to build the foundations of the printing shop.

The Polish Government offered a plant for manufacturing prefabricated cement building components, but the Vietnamese rejected the advice of the Polish engineers and built the plant on unsuitable terrain. The result: The plant is under water most of the time.



The waste of socialist aid was the subject of tough discussions between Soviet and Vietnamese officials in Hanoi after a team that had come from Moscow had noted during a visit of the harbor in Haiphong that Soviet goods, partly from as far back as 1968, were rotting under sun and rain.

Some small plants donated by East European countries are still not operating, because the Vietnamese do not know where to get the needed energy. To this day they must rely exclusively on the old powerplant built by the French in the old days, and power outages may be expected to occur at any time.

One night Deputy Foreign Minister Vo Dong Giang gave a dinner in the pretty oldfashioned government house, formerly the residence of the French colonial governor. As the deputy minister was walking down the stairway under the glittering light of the candelabras and in the breeze of the humming fans, there was a sudden power outage, and the host and the guests groped in the dark as each was seeking to shake the other's hand. They then dined in candlelight.

Anything that does not work in Vietnam these days, anything that has not been finished, any promises that have not been kept—for any of this the Vietnamese authorities have but one monotonous excuse. They blame the Chinese.

"The Chinese have prevented our rebuilding the country," they say. "The Chinese do not let us enjoy peace; the Chinese are forcing us to fight."

Propaganda exhibits in every town of Vietnam brand the "Peking expansionists", allegedly bringing war and misery to Vietnam, as successors of the "U.S. imperialists" and the "French colonialists." And there is actually some truth to this.

After 1975 China at first exercised pressure on Hanoi through the Khmer Rouge, who were continuing to attack Vietnam in the south. Then in 1979 China began its so-called "defensive counterattack" along the whole of their common border. Since then Peking has kept up its threat of "a second lesson" against Hanoi, thus forcing Vietnam to spend the greater part of its rather sparse funds on defense rather than for reconstruction.

"We are unlucky to have such dumb neighbors," Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach told DER SPIEGEL. "They think they can make us surrender."

The Vietnamese have been paying, and continue to pay, a high price for this. Cao Bang, 275 kilometers north of Hanoi and only a few kilometers from the Chinese border, at one time a charming border post surrounded by green mountains, today is a dead town.

During the war against the Americans nothing had been destroyed here. When the 225,000 Chinese soldiers who had invaded Vietnam in February 1979 withdrew, not a single concrete structure had been left standing in Cao Bang. The department store, the middle school, the hospital, the party headquarters, the city hall and the bridge had been systematically mined and laid waste.

In Cao Bang 19 plants had employed thousands of people. None of the plants remained and in the 2 years that have passed none has been rebuilt.

The border strip on the Vietnamese side, 20 to 30 kilometers wide, where the Chinese destroyed any sign of economic activity during their brief invasion, continues to lie in ruin.

This is one of the areas of Vietnam richest in minerals, but none of the mines, including the excavation site for precious bauxite near Cao Bang, is in operation again--the fear being that the Chinese might return at any time and destroy everything once more.

The whole area is in the hands of the army today. The ricefields, abandoned by the civilians, are being cultivated by soldiers. The woods covering many mountain slopes have been burned off to give the defenders a clear view. Trenches have been dug along the main axis of a possible invasion.

In the high mountains rising from the glorious landscape of Lang Son northeast of Hanoi, entrances to dark tunnels can be seen here and there. Under the green umbrella of bamboos and the tropical vegetation one suspects the existence of underground fuel and ammunition depots and artillery positions.

According to a foreign military attache in Hanoi, "the Vietnamese to a large extent have dug tunnels under the mountains and mined them, so that they could explode them under the feet of the Chinese if these should try once more to invade the country this way."

The Vietnamese military apparatus operates well; no money is being spared to keep it in sound operational condition. While plants in the country are standing idle because they do not have enough energy to operate their machinery, dozens of MIG's and some A-37 jet fighters left behind by the Americans take off and land all day long in practice flights at the air bases of Da Nang, Hanoi and Saigon.

Altogether the enmity of the Chinese has cost Vietnam dearly. Hanoi suddenly saw itself deprived of an important source of aid. Development projects Peking had promised to undertake were stopped.

Plants built in the north with Chinese aid now are in the same trouble as are those built by the Americans in the south. The steelworkers in Thai Nguyen used to operate with Chinese coal, which now is not being supplied any more. A large chemical fertilizer plant lacks spare parts.

The continued tension at the border indeed consumes enormous funds. But if the Chinese thought they could weaken the regime in Hanoi that way, they have accomplished the exact opposite. The tension rather has strengthened the power of the communists in Hanoi by creating the prerequisites for such a regime to work best--war.

"We are strong in wartime but split by peace," says Prof Tong That Tung of the University of Hanoi. Sure, war exacerbates the economic straits in Vietnam, but at the same time the renewed threat by the traditional enemy also revives the pride of the Vietnamese and their readiness to tighten their belts even more.

"We have defeated the French, we have defeated the Americans, we have defeated the Chinese; we need not be afraid of anything." One hears this time and again and not only from official propaganda spokesmen.

Nguyen Hanh Dao, 11, from Lang Son saw his mother being wounded during the 1979 war, witnessed the Chinese entering his house.

"They were big and had no hair," he says, "but I am not afraid of them. If they come back I will kill them with a stick, kill them with a knife."

Question: "What do you want to do when you grow up?"

Answer: "I would like to become a soldier and kill Chinese."

The hate against the Chinese unites all Vietnamese, whether they live in the north or in the south, communists and anticommunists alike.

"If this government falls, we will be taken over by Peking, and nobody wants that," says a Catholic priest in Saigon. The communist campaign against the 2 million Chinese who lived in Vietnam before most of them were driven out met with no kind of opposition on the part of the population.

"We had to remove them, we could not trust them, many were spies working for Peking," says Tran Nha Qui, a shoemaker in Cao Bang.

No Vietnamese of Chinese origin now live in the border area any longer. The rich have joined the stream of the "boat people," the poor have fled to China by land. The rest were sent to work in special agricultural enterprises far away from the towns.

A few thousand Chinese have remained--in Hanoi, Na Dang and Hue--and half a million live in Cholon, the Chinese twin city of Saigon. Most keep their heads above water with small shops and black market deals, waiting for the next opportunity to escape by ship.

Until their victory in 1975 the Vietnamese communists had managed to maintain a balance between the numerous representatives of Moscow and Peking in their country and thus to receive assistance for their war from both sides. After the conclusion of peace Hanoi's relations with Peking deteriorated and soon turned into enmity.

"One cannot constantly engaged in acrobatics," says Hoang Tung, editor of the party paper NHAN DAN; "in the end we had to take one side or the other."

The Vietnamese claim that the Chinese offered Vietnam assistance in rebuilding the country, but only on condition that China would get a monopoly for such assistance. The Vietnamese reportedly rejected this. The result is that now the Soviets have that monopoly and no rebuilding of the country is taking place.

As for food, arms and fuel, Vietnam now depends entirely on the Soviet Union, and this dependence is increasing constantly. According to U.S. estimates, Moscow is pumping 3 million dollars a day into Vietnam.

The Russians are everywhere. Russians travel cheaply in the country and buy up whatever is still left over from U.S. rule--jeans, Japanese transistor sets, wrist watches, textiles. There are Russian advisers in the country reportedly a battalion strong. There are Russian security advisers working with the police, and Russian economic advisers in every province.



Heavy and awkward, bathed in perspiration in their cheap clothes under the tropical sun, these "Americans without dollars," as the Vietnamese call the Soviets, waddle around everywhere--in hotels and in airports, on the otherwise deserted magnificent beaches of Da Nang, where a new hotel was built for them, and at the old vacation spot of Vung Tau near Saigon, where a special zone is being created for rest and recuperation of the Soviets.

The Soviet Navy pays calls on all ports despite the fact that the Vietnamese have not yet installed any military bases for them. "Not yet at this time" is the comment of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, who gives one to understand that it is entirely possible that Hanoi will grant the Soviets their own bases in the future.

Soviet trawlers have a high-sea-fishing monopoly along Vietnam's shores. Now that all foreign oil companies, including the German Deminex, have been expelled from the country, the Soviets also have a monopoly for oil exploration in Vietnam.

The government in Hanoi realizes full well that its dependence on Moscow entails certain risks, and therefore is trying to create an opening toward the West.

The Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia, however, their military presence in Laos and above all the suspicion that the gestures toward the West might merely be a maneuver approved by the Soviets, in order that someone else might pay the bill which has come to be too high for the Soviets--all that now has isolated Vietnam to a large extent.

When the little men in their green uniforms came out of the jungle 6 years ago to conquer Saigon and take over the south, the world was filled with respect for these stubborn Vietnamese who contrary to all expectations had won their war against the powerful United States. It seemed as if they were starting with circumspection and energy to build an independent socialist state along the lines of, say, Yugoslavia.

Admired at one time, the Vietnamese communists are now in the dock because of their invasion of Cambodia and because they are violating the human rights of their own people by brutally letting thousands of undesirable citizens leave the country in boats that are not seaworthy. They have become outsiders in international affairs who obediently parrot Soviet policies, flaunt their military strength and ask for assistance everywhere, regardless of the source.

"Whenever I meet a high official he asks me what my country will give him," says a European diplomat in Hanoi. Their economic straits are not only forcing the Vietnamese to put up with restrictions of the political independence for which they have fought so hard for decades; they are also already finding themselves compelled to abandon, or at least put off, their plans of leading the south to socialism.

Officials who were sent to the Mekong Delta to persuade the farmers to join collectives have been recalled to Hanoi. Their propaganda work had caused a drop in production and induced the farmers to slaughter and consume their cattle rather than to bring it into cooperatives.

Thus only a small part of the ricefields in the south has been collectivized. The government claims the proportion is 20 percent, foreign experts think it is only 3 percent. To a large degree the farmers are again free to decide to produce whatever they like as long as they can feed the towns.



Instead of collectivizing the south, the communists consider it more appropriate again to promote private elements in the already strongly collectivized agriculture of the north.

A new system of agreements between the state and private enterprises, greater private shares and the reintroduction of individual stimuli in the final phase of collective production now lets the farmers market their excess production themselves as soon as they have fulfilled their quotas. One did not have to wait long for results.

Every day 200,000 tons of vegetables arrive in Hanoi. Half comes from private cultivation, is being offered by individual farmers and is being sold at dozens of open markets which have cropped up along the streets throughout the city.

Private trade, which had been virtually discontinued and had been much criticized during the campaign against the Chinese fellow citizens, is now officially allowed again, and just a few months after the new policy was introduced the picture of the country has changed.

Everywhere along the provincial streets, even in the smallest villages, private "teahouses" invite one to stop. Generally it is only an old woman with a kettle of hot water sitting under a straw roof. There are bicycle repair shops, tailor-shops, barbershops, vegetable stands; also meat from private individuals keeping pigs and chickens and homemade bread.

Beside the nonfunctioning state-owned economy, beside the state stores standing empty, within a few months a private sector has developed which is in a position to supply part of those vital goods which are not obtainable otherwise.

A Vietnamese citizen may buy only one bicycle during his lifetime at the official price of 300 dong. Small family enterprises now produce "private" bicycles, of course at three or four times the price.

"The Vietnamese survive because they are in a position to circumvent the official system," says a foreign economic expert.

Government employees whose salary is only 60 to 80 dong a month earn an additional 40 dong a night by working in workshops manufacturing plastic sandals or by planting flowers in their kitchen gardens and selling them to foreigners. A bunch of gladiolas costs 60 dong.

Drivers of military vehicles (monthly wage 6 dong) employed on the road between Hanoi and the Chinese border take with them on their way to the border oil stoves which can be sold in the mountains at three times their normal price, and they bring back lizards (5 dong a piece) which yield five times their value as medicine in Hanoi.

Everyone appears to be chasing after money, with the government in the lead. In Hanoi a private restaurant pays a tax of 6,000 dong a month, while a private stand selling vegetables or hot tea pays 60 dong.

This way the strict Hanoi increasingly resembles Saigon with its joie de vivre: small shops in every entrance, children and old women selling cigarettes by the piece from small boxes, long-haired boys and girls with thick-soled shoes from Saigon, and characters engaged in all kinds of business, from offering a favorable dollar exchange in the black market to selling fake antique bronze figures.

In Hanoi, the painter Ngoc Linh is exhibiting for the first time. His pictures do not feature a single soldier, a single gun or a single battle scene--something inconceivable in the past.

Saigon, in turn, has still not become Ho Chi Minh City; nobody calls the old capital of the south by that name.

The houses inhabited by communist officials are being repainted. The Hotel Continental, rich in tradition, on whose terrace generations of colonialists, military personnel and journalists used to sip their drinks, is being renovated, with the officials from Hanoi, Vientiane and Pnom Penh, for whom the hotel is reserved, getting airconditioning.

Gen Duong Van Minh ("Big Minh"), the last president of South Vietnam, who signed the unconditional surrender, still lives in his spacious Saigon house, cultivating orchids. A request for an interview is met with the information that the general does not want to receive any foreign visitors.

The Cafe Givral is still a meeting place for old dreamers and young desperadoes.

It is an irony of fate that Saigon is surviving above all through contributions by "traitors." Immediately after liberation it was a disgrace for any family to have a member who had fled to the United States or France. Now this is considered a great privilege. Every week packages totaling 100 tons arrive via Air France containing goods sent by refugee relatives to relatives who stayed behind. Thus suits, medicine, soap and even tennis balls arrive in Saigon and are then sold at a big profit on the black market.

A man from Hue comes to Saigon every month to pick up the radio his son, who lives in the United States, sends him through friends in France. With the money he gets from selling these radios he supports his family of six.

The packages and the goods being smuggled from Thailand via Cambodia and reaching the Vietnamese coast by ship from Singapore supply the country with consumer goods, and thousands of Vietnamese who otherwise would be unemployed make a living with this trade.

Such a liberal attitude by the authorities evidently is regarded as a safety valve against possible popular unrest--as is the official tolerance now being exercised vis-a-vis the renaissance of religion.

Buddhist schools may recruit new novices, and pagodas are being restored and made available for cultural events. The churches are overcrowded on Sundays, with many young people among the churchgoers.

Despite the fact the 80 Catholic priests are still in reeducation camps, despite the fact that 5 Jesuits recently were arrested and charged with counterrevolutionary activity in Saigon, despite the fact that the seminary in Hue has been closed and its director, Pater Ho Van Quy, banished to a village, the communists are making efforts to enlist the cooperation of Catholics as well.

At a bishops conference in Hanoi, a high party official recently delivered a long lecture about the country's difficulties, saying in conclusion: "In the 2,000 years of your ideology you have not succeeded in establishing paradise on earth. We have tried to do so only for a few years. Give us time. Help us to do it better."

Of course the people, particularly in the south, think that the small liberties are only a tactical move by the government, which is under pressure of economic failure and the Chinese threat. As soon as the government feels more secure, chances are it will begin anew to collectivize agriculture and restrict private trade.

"Speculators and black market dealers are getting out of control," warned L Quang Chanh, Saigon deputy mayor, in a conversation with DER SPIEGEL. "One day we will have to do something about it."

At the moment the communist authorities are exercising restraint. This year the parades and public events which normally would have been held on 30 April to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the great victory of 1975 did not take place.

Chances are this was done to avoid young recruits--as happened recently--marching behind red flags but singing in unison, not "we are marching eagerly to the front," but "we are sailing eagerly to the United States."

While in the evening of 30 April the top leadership of the city was gathering in the premises of the former National Assembly in Saigon (now a theater) to commemorate the day of liberation behind closed doors, thousands of young people assembled out front to celebrate "the occupation of Saigon" in their own way.

Dozens of Honda cycles had pulled up--the boys bent over the wheels, the girls on the seats behind them--and started a mad race.

They raced down the Tu Do, the main street of Saigon and the former Rue Catinat, then along the Saigon River, up the Nguyen Hue Boulevard and again down the Tu Do, at full speed, one round after another.

The streets were filled with exhaust smoke. Some fell from their seats, were flung into the street and were injured but got up again and continued the race, with thousands of dumbfounded people looking on--an absurd gesture of challenge and waste.

Since then this senseless merry-go-round of death has been repeated every Sunday under the eyes of the police, continuing until curfew time.

These Saigon evenings characterize one side of life in Vietnam today. The evenings in Hanoi symbolize the other side--the readiness to survive.

When the sun goes down in the thick yellowish air, dozens of houses open their doors and become cafes or modest restaurants serving a bowl of soup and cake.

And at small wooden stands along the streets selling cigarettes by the piece, hundred of people light their oil lamps, which glow like fireflies in the expanse of the whispering darkness.

## ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

### CARTOON REPRESENTATION OF DAILY LIFE

Hanoi LAO DONG in Vietnamese 20 Aug 81 p 12

[Excerpts] Bribes Insure 'Priority' For State Store Customers

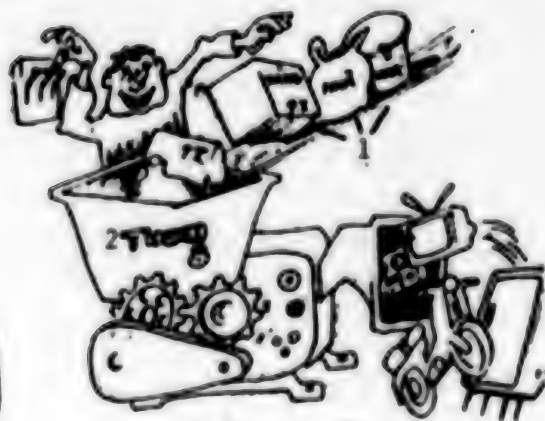


1. Sold Out
2. The "sold out" sign is up out front but in the back the boss deals with his "priority" customers. Only by establishing priorities can the boss make a little money.

2 Phòng người bán lên chủ đề  
mà trong ông vẫn: "hết hàng ưu tiên"  
ưu tiên mới có tí tiền

Tranh: VAN THANH

Bribes Divert State Goods to Enrich Malefactors

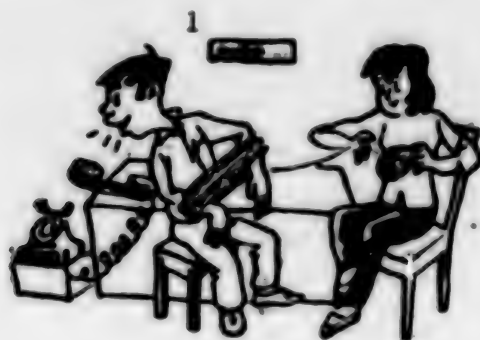


1. State Goods
2. Bribes
3. The Secret to Riches

3 Bị quyết tâm giàu.  
Tranh: TÙNG LẬP



# Workers Personnel Interests Interfere With Official Duties



2 - Ah, đang bận nhà, công việc rất "chung".

Tranh: HOÀNG HUY

1. Office
2. Sorry, I can't help you. I'm all tied up right now.

# Superiors Reap Great Benefits by Covering Up Shortcomings of Subordinates



3 - Họ, không thể với được vì thủ trưởng chính là cái ô che cho họ ra rồi.

Tranh: QUANG DẦU

1. Great! How clever. It's the boy's who are getting wet.
2. Director
3. "Right, we can't let the boss get wet because he covers up for us."

## ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE AND FINANCE

### PIECEWORK WAGE SYSTEMS REQUIRE CLOSE SUPERVISION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Aug 81 p 1

/Editorial: "Firmly, Effectively Expand Piecework Wages"/

/Text/ After more than a half year of carrying out Resolution 26-CP, nearly 2,500 units with more than 80 percent of the workers in the state-operated economic sectors have applied forms of contract and piecework wages. Many locations have actively applied these forms of wages consistent with the production characteristics and situation of each sector and unit. Initial results have created a change in the management formula from unpaid bill administration to economic profit-and-loss accounting, elevated the spirit of responsibility of the enterprise director and the collective ownership concept of the worker and public servant and encouraged the laborer to enthusiastically engage in production, increase labor productivity and practice conservation.

Not beginning with the proper supervision principles, a number of locations have expanded contract and piecework wages and cash award forms in an expanding manner without thorough preparations and therefore, economic effectiveness has been low. Specific indications are that labor productivity increases slowly or not at all while the wage funds and income level of the workers both increase at an excessive rate, creating an irrational income difference between the various types of labor in one unit or between the enterprises in one sector or between one sector and another. A universal shortcoming is the arbitrary lowering of norms while organizational and technical conditions remain the same; On the other hand, unit prices are raised in an inconsistent manner by raising the job class, raising the percentage of piecework wage stimulation and introducing subsidies which are not of a salary nature.

The further expansion of contract and piecework wages and cash award forms is a necessary method for continuing to improve management, properly achieve the principle of distribution in accordance with labor, stimulating and promoting production and assuring unity between the three interests. This expansion must be carried out in a firm and effective manner. Each enterprise has the responsibility for best preparing the necessary conditions and first of all the material conditions for production such as assuring energy, materials, labor, etc.; and preconceiving replacement methods when difficulties are encountered with the purpose of gradually leading the enterprise into a stabilized and continuous production situation, restricting to the lowest level a situation of piecework wages intermixed with time wages. Secondly, there must be economic and technical norms, labor norms and rational wage unit prices, assuring a rational level of labor and material waste and salary for each type of pro-

Product contracts and piecework wages are closely connected with labor organization, production organization and management. Consequently, in order to carry out good product contract and piecework wage work, it is necessary to improve labor organization and correct inconsistencies in production organization and management. Each enterprise, based on production and labor organization characteristics, must select appropriate forms and systems of piecework wages aimed at truly stimulating everyone to give concern to his own labor results.

Increasing labor productivity, improving product quality, reducing production expenses, strengthening socialist production relations, upholding the role of planning and assuring unity between the three interests are principles of supervision and are also the foremost standards for evaluating the economic effectiveness of product contracts, piecework wages and cash award forms.

7300

CSO: 4209/501

## **AGRICULTURE**

### **YOUTHS PREPARING TO LEAVE FOR NEW ECONOMIC ZONES**

Hanoi HANOI MOI in Vietnamese 24 Jul 81 p 1

[Article: "Assault Youths in Precincts Ready To Leave for New Economic Zones"]

[Text] Recently, the Assault Youth Union of Hai Ba Trung and Ba Dinh Precincts and Cua Nam Ward have held a swearing-in ceremony for new members, and a rally for assault youths prior to their departure for the New Economic Zones.

At the swearing-in ceremony of the assault youth company of Hai Ba Trung Precinct on the morning of 17 July, the precinct union executive committee gave the company a traditional union banner.

Representatives of families having members volunteering to leave for the Lam Bond New Economic Zone attended the rally, held at the Ba Dinh Precinct office on the morning of 18 July.

Many youths of both sexes voiced their confidence in and enthusiasm about their new task, pledging to devote all the strength and intelligence of youth to building material bases in the New Economic Zone.

9213

CSO: 4209/490



## AGRICULTURE

### NGHIA BINH PROVINCE HAS TWO CONSECUTIVE BUMPER CROPS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Aug 81 p 1

/VNA News Release: "Nghia Binh Province Attains Bumper Summer-Fall Crop"/

/Text/ Nghia Binh transplanted more than 49,000 hectares of summer-fall rice, an increase over the 1980 summer-fall crop by more than 6,700 hectares. By the middle of August, the entire province had harvested more than half the area with many districts completing the harvest. According to initial data, the entire province achieved an average yield of from 26 to 27 quintals per hectare which was nearly the same as the 1978 crop, the best bumper crop ever. Many districts such as Binh Son, Tay Son, Phuoc Van and An Nhon and Quy Nhon City attained yields higher than the 1978 crop.

Thus, Nghia Binh has attained two consecutive bumper crops: the winter-spring crop achieved an average yield of more than 23 quintals per hectare, 1.3 quintals of paddy more than 1978, the best bumper crop ever, and exceeding planned levels by nearly 7 percent.

7300

CSO: 4209/501

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[The following information on Vietnamese personalities has been extracted from Vietnamese-language sources published in Hanoi, unless otherwise indicated. Asterisked job title indicates that this is the first known press reference to this individual functioning in this capacity.]

Trương Đình Bàng [TRUOWNG DINHF BANGF]

\*Standing Vice Chairman of the Central Council of the Ho Chi Minh Vanguard Teenagers Unit; his article "Build a Strong Ho Chi Minh Vanguard Teenagers Unit" appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 21 Aug 81 p 3)

Mai Văn Bộ [MAI VAWN BOOJ]

Born 1918, prior to the August Revolution he participated in patriotic activities through the youth and student movements, from 1945 to 1949 he engaged in press work in Saigon-Cholon, from 1950 to 1954 he was in charge of "Voice of Nambo" Radio Station and simultaneously was one of the directors [Uy viên Giám đốc] of the Nambo Information Service, from May 1955 to 1958 he worked on the Liaison Committee of the Vietnam People's Army General Headquarters adjacent to the International Committee for Control and Supervision of the Ceasefire, from June 1958 to 1960 he was Vice President of the Hanoi College of Medicine; between 1961 and 1970 he served, in turn, as Commercial Representative and General Representative of the DRV in France; prior to being appointed SRV Ambassador to France in January 1981, he was chief of Asia Department 2 of the SRV Foreign Ministry; from a biographical sketch published in the cited source. (Paris DOAN KET 21 Feb 81 p 1)

Đường Hồng Dật [DUWOWNGF HOONGF ZAATJ]

Vice Minister of Agriculture; on 14 August 1981 he accepted a Swedish grant to purchase fertilizer. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Aug 81 p 4)

Cấp Xuân Diêm [CAPS XUAAN ZIEEMJ], Senior Colonel

Deputy Director of the Public Security Service, Ho Chi Minh City; his interview on the public security situation in Ho Chi Minh City appeared in the cited source. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 17 Jul 81 p 1)

Trần Tự Đái [TRAANF TUWJ DAIX], \*Colonel

Of the Quartermaster Department, Rear Services General Department; his innovations are the subject of an article in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 20 Aug 81 p 3)

Lưu Minh Hiệu [LUWU MINH HIEEUJ]

\*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Hung Ha District, Thai Binh Province; his article on agricultural product contracting appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 17 Aug 81 p 2)

Nguyễn Duy Huân [NGUYEENX ZUY HUAANS]

\*Deputy Secretary of the VCP Committee, Phuc Tho District, Hanoi; his article "Developmental Tendencies in Phuc Tho District's Agricultural Production" appeared in the cited source. (HANOI MOI 2 Jul 81 p 3)

Trần Ngọc Kha [TRAANF NGOCJ KHA]

\*Of Vietnam News Agency in Paris; accompanied by his wife, he attended celebrations of the 91st anniversary of the birth of Ho Chi Minh held by the suburban Paris chapter of the Association of Vietnamese in France in Saint-Maur on 24 May 1981. (Paris DOAN KET 6 Jun 81 p 2)

Nguyễn Nam Khánh [NGUYEENX NAM KHANHS], Major General

Deputy Head of the Political General Department; on 18 August 1981 he attended the graduation of a senior officers course. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 20 Aug 81 p 1)

Trần Đăng Khoa [TRAANF DAWNG KHOA]

Vice President of the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Association; on 18 August 1981 he headed a delegation of his association on a visit to the GDR. (NHAN DAN 21 Aug 81 p 4)

Ngô Bùi Kim [NGOO BUIF KIM]

\*Counselor of the SRV Embassy in France; attended Tet celebrations by the suburban Paris chapter of the Association of Vietnamese in France held in Massy on 28 February 1981. (Paris DOAN KET 7 Mar 81 p 2)

Hồ Quang Long [HOOF QUANG LONG]

Deputy Head of the Machinery Department, Ministry of Communications and Transportation; his article "Twenty Years of Building and Developing the Central Communications and Transportation Mechanized Forces" appeared in the cited source. (GLAO THONG VAN TAI 20 Jul 81 p 1)

Hoàng Văn Lợi [HOANGF VAWN LOWIJ], Deceased

Born in 1911; former Vice Minister and Member of the VCP Fraction of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Secretary of the VCP Party Affairs Committee for Overseas Personnel [Bi thu Ban can su Dang ngoai nuoc]; Member of the VCP since 1931; he died on 17 August 1981 following a period of illness at the Vietnam-Soviet Friendship Hospital. (NHAN DAN 18 Aug 81 p 4)

Hoàng Trường Minh [HOANGF TRUWOWNGF MINH]

Member of the Central Committee of the VCP; Secretary of the VCP Committee, Lang Son Province; his article "The Soldiers and People of Lang Son Fight and Produce" appeared in the cited source. (NHAN DAN 18 Aug 81 p 3)

Võ Văn Năm [VOX VAWN NAWM], \*Colonel

\*Chief of Air Defense, 7th Military Region; recently he attended the graduation of self defense anti aircraft gunner trainees. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 15 Jul 81 p 1)

Phạm Quốc Tá [PHAMJ QUOOC TAS]

\*Counselor of the SRV Embassy in France; attended Tet celebrations by the suburban Paris chapter of the Association of Vietnamese in France held in Massy on 28 February 1981. (Paris DOAN KET 7 Mar 81 p 2)

Lê Văn Thân [LEE VAWN THAAN]

\*Counselor of the SRV Embassy in France; attended celebrations of the 91st anniversary of the birth of Ho Chi Minh held by the suburban Paris chapter of the Association of Vietnamese in France in Saint-Maur on 24 May 1981. (Paris DOAN KET 6 Jun 81 p 2)

Ba Trần [BA TRAAF]

\*Secretary of the VCP Committee, Vung Liem District, Cuu Long Province; he was mentioned in an article on economic cooperation between Cuu Long Province and Ho Chi Minh City. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 10 Jul 81 p 3)

Lê Đăng Trí [LEE DAWNG TRIS]

\*Deputy Head of the Motor Transportation Department, Ministry of Communications and Transportation; his article "Central Motor Transportation Enterprises Implement The Transportation Mission to the Mountains in 1981" appeared in the cited source. (GIAO THONG VAN TAI 30 Jun 81 p 1)

Vũ Doãn Uân<sup>2</sup> [VUX ZOANX UAANR]

\*Director of the Agriculture Supplies General Corporation; on 14 August 1981 he thanked the Swedish government and people for a grant to purchase fertilizer. (QUAN DOI NHAN DAN 16 Aug 81 p 4)



Nguyễn Xuân Việt [NGUYEENX XUAAN VIEETJ]

Former Secretary of the VCP Committee, Nghia Lo Province; he was mentioned in passing in an article that noted that he has since retired. (NHAN DAN 19 Aug 81 p 2)

Lê Quang Vinh [LEE QUANG VINHJ]

\*Director of the Education Service of Ho Chi Minh City; is the author of an article in the cited source entitled, "Some Thoughts on the Tasks of the Youth Union in Schools." (THANH NIEN No 5, May 81 pp 19-21)

Nguyễn Minh Vĩnh [NGUYEENX MINH VINHX]

\*Chairman of the People's Committee, Cau Ngang District, Cuu Long Province; he was mentioned in an article on economic cooperation between Ho Chi Minh City and Cuu Long Province. (Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG 10 Jul 81 p 3)

CSO: 4209/3

## POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

### NEW ECONOMIC ZONES RECEIVE 74,000 MORE PEOPLE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 25 Aug 81 p 1

/Article: "More Than 74,000 Depart To Build New Economic Zones"/

/Text/ During the first 6 months of this year, 74,924 people from the provinces and cities of the Red River Delta and the provinces of former Region 4 departed to build new economic zones in the central highlands and Nam Bo. Of this number, 15,500 laborers went to rubber and coffee growing areas, 2,700 went to the rice growing state farms of the Mekong Delta, and 18,600 went to cooperatives and production collectives to simultaneously engage in both opening new land to expand the area and intensive cultivation of grain crops.

The provinces of Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Hanoi, Nghe Tinh, Binh Tri Thien, Quang Nam-Da Nang and Nghia Binh closely coordinated and discussed methods with the provinces receiving the new arrivals; consequently, the living conditions of those moving to the new zones were rapidly stabilized and the people had favorable conditions for immediately beginning production. The recruitment of labor for state-operated facilities with accompanying families was a good experience, alleviating difficulties for the state in issuing capital and materials for building a material base in the location of the new arrivals.

Nevertheless, total planning is not yet available for the transfer of people between zones and areas; and the opening of new land in these provinces and in a number of provinces in the north is still insufficient. Organization of an apparatus to transfer laborers and residents is still not perfected from the central to the primary level. The preparation of positions, survey planning and other material conditions are still unsynchronized and incomplete. Means of transporting the people to the new economic zones are scarce and slow. From now until the end of the year, it is necessary to transport 65,000 laborers and 174,000 people, including 24,000 laborers and 67,000 people from the provinces of northern Vietnam to the rubber and coffee facilities in the central highlands and a number of rice growing state farms and cooperatives in the Mekong Delta. The Labor and Population Distribution Steering Committee and the Labor and Population Distribution Directorate (of the Ministry of Labor) are preparing materials, capital and residential locations and holding discussions with the transportation sector to assure means of transportation (railroads and land and water routes) aimed at achieving the labor and population distribution norms for 1981.

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[Text] National Income and Economic Development in Vietnam, a Country That Has an Underdeveloped Economy (pp 1-12)  
(Article by Phung The Truong) [being translated]

Thoughts on Improving the Management of Capital Construction Investments (pp 13-20)  
(Article by Pham Hoc Lan) [being translated]

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[Text] Environmental Management and Development: Some Lessons and Experiences of the Soviet Union (pp 1-3)  
(Article by Tran Duc Giang, head of the Department of Scientific and Technical Management of the Investigation and Protection of Natural Resources and Natural Conditions of the State Science and Technology Commission, and Nguyen Ngoc Sinh, a cadre of the Department of Scientific and Technical Management of the Investigation and Protection of Natural Resources and Natural Conditions of the State Science and Technology Commission)

A Requirement in the Calculation of Mineral Reserves (pp 4-6)  
(Article by Dang Tran Bang, deputy head in charge of the Mineral Reserves Appraisal Section of the State Science and Technology Commission)

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